In the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method of promoting tissue repair comprising administering a compound which modulates function of beta 1 integrin to a tissue in need of repair, wherein the compound binds to the beta 1 integrin molecule in a region of amino acid residues 82 to 87 comprising residues TAEKLK (SEQ ID NO: 1) of the sequence of the mature beta 1 integrin molecule, and functional modulation of beta 1 integrin results in at least one of (i) an inhibition of the apoptotic pathway, (ii) an alteration in the metalloproteinase balance or (iii) an increase in the anabolism of the extracellular matrix.

2.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein the modulation of the apoptotic activity has a resultant modulation in the metalloproteinase (MMP) balance.

5.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound is an antibody.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody produced by the commercial clone JB1a.

17.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is a synthetic peptide.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the antibody is a humanised antibody, chimeric antibody or a human antibody.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the antibody is a fragment of the monoclonal antibody produced by the commercial clone JB1a.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the functional modulation causes the shedding of the beta 1 integrin.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the alteration in the metalloproteinase balance results in at least one of (i) an increase in inactive MMP9, and (ii) a decrease in MMP1.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where functional modulation ~~may~~ further ~~include~~ includes an increase in TIMP1.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein promotion of tissue repair is used for treating a disease where the extracellular matrix is degraded.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein promotion of tissue repair is for treating lung emphysema.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein promotion of tissue repair is for treating chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

28. (New) A method of treating tissue injury comprising administering an antibody to beta 1 integrin to the tissue in need of treatment, wherein the antibody binds to the beta 1 integrin molecule in a region of amino acid residues 82 to 87 comprising residues TAEKLK (SEQ ID NO: 1) of the sequence of the mature beta 1 integrin molecule, and wherein the antibody modulates function of beta 1 resulting in at least one of (i) an inhibition of the apoptotic pathway, (ii) an alteration in the metalloproteinase balance or (iii) an increase in the anabolism of the extracellular matrix.

29. (New) A method as claimed in claim 28 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody produced by the commercial clone JB1a.

30. (New) A method as claimed in claim 28 wherein the treatment is prophylactic.